

Message

From: Beslow, Mike [beslow.mike@epa.gov]
Sent: 8/8/2017 6:33:10 PM
To: Barnett, Thomas R [Thomas.Barnett@arcelormittal.com]
CC: David Greinke (DGREINKE@idem.IN.gov) [DGREINKE@idem.IN.gov]; nream@idem.IN.gov; Arnold, Paul S LT [Paul.S.Arnold2@uscg.mil]; Doyle, Kevin [Kevin.Doyle@arcelormittal.com]; Mendez, Thomas [mendez.thomas@epa.gov]; sean.fitzgerald@uscg.mil
Subject: RE: Outfall 001, criteria for reporting a release

Tom-

According to your email, US Steel repaired an oil leak that I would assume led to the outfall at 001 (please correct me if this is an incorrect assumption). Have you collected a fingerprint sample of this oil to confirm it is what we are finding in the IHC? If the answer is no, when is this collection planned? My objective is to confirm we are stopping the ongoing release.

Mike Beslow

On-Scene Coordinator
US EPA, Region 5
77 W Jackson (SE-5J)
Chicago, IL 60604
voice: (312)353-8678
fax: (312)582-5139

From: Barnett, Thomas R [mailto:Thomas.Barnett@arcelormittal.com]
Sent: Monday, August 7, 2017 2:55 PM
To: Beslow, Mike
Cc: sean.fitzgerald@uscg.mil; David Greinke (DGREINKE@idem.IN.gov) ; nream@idem.IN.gov; Higginbotham, Paul ; Arnold, Paul S LT ; Krueger, Thomas ; Doyle, Kevin ; Mendez, Thomas
Subject: Outfall 001, criteria for reporting a release

Mike, in regards to your question we can provide the following:

On June 13th we visibly saw oil going under the steel weir at Outfall 001, and pooling behind the first set of oil absorbent booms situated in the canal. We reported this to the NRC and the EPA as a release. K and M, onsite, vacuumed off the collected oil behind the boom. Our criteria is a visual inspection to determine if oil is escaping under the steel weir and into the canal proper. Oil sheen collected within the steel weir area, which is ArcelorMittal property, is not considered a release.

Oil buildup this morning at the first soft boom positioned across the mouth of the sewer discharge within the steel weir area was much reduced from last week. We understand that USS found a leaking section of the Morg oil system, and repaired

it. At the surface gap between the floating absorbent pads inside the steel weir, and the weir, no oil sheen was present this morning.

Thomas Barnett | Manager, Environmental Technology
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From: Beslow, Mike [<mailto:beslow.mike@epa.gov>]
Sent: Monday, August 07, 2017 10:08 AM
To: Barnett, Thomas R <Thomas.Barnett@arcelormittal.com>
Cc: sean.fitzgerald@uscg.mil; David Greinke (DGREINKE@idem.IN.gov) <DGREINKE@idem.IN.gov>; nream@idem.IN.gov; Higginbotham, Paul <PHIGGINB@idem.IN.gov>; Arnold, Paul S LT <Paul.S.Arnold2@uscg.mil>; Krueger, Thomas <krueger.thomas@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Outfall report Friday August 4, 2017

Mr. Barnett –

I am in receipt of your voicemail. I understand you have the desire to inform me your criteria for substance being discharged, and I also understand you would like to update me on the steps that US Steel has recently taken. Since the interest extends beyond me I would appreciate it if you could submit everything via email, and send it to the EPA, IDEM, and USCG.

I look forward to hearing back from you,

Thank you

Mike Beslow

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From: Beslow, Mike
Sent: Friday, August 04, 2017 5:33 PM
To: Barnett, Thomas R <Thomas.Barnett@arcelormittal.com>
Cc: Lurtz, Kevin <Kevin.Lurtz@arcelormittal.com>; sean.fitzgerald@uscg.mil; David Greinke (DGREINKE@idem.IN.gov) <DGREINKE@idem.IN.gov>; nream@idem.IN.gov; Doyle, Kevin <Kevin.Doyle@arcelormittal.com>; Higginbotham, Paul <PHIGGINB@idem.IN.gov>; Arnold, Paul S LT <Paul.S.Arnold2@uscg.mil>; Beth Admire <badmire@idem.IN.gov>; Krueger, Thomas <krueger.thomas@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Outfall report Friday August 4, 2017

I understand the measures you are taking and you did not answer my direct question:

Could you please explain your criteria for a substance being discharged on your daily submitted report?

Mike Beslow
On-Scene Coordinator
US EPA, Region 5
(312)353-8678

Please excuse any errors as this email was sent from a mobile device.

On Aug 4, 2017, at 4:17 PM, Barnett, Thomas R <Thomas.Barnett@arcelormittal.com> wrote:

Mike, as you can see from the photos, beside oil absorbent booms situated inside the steel weir, we have the entire area inside the steel weir blanketed with soft absorbent pads, which the K&M crew change out daily, seven days a week. We do not see oil going under the weir.

We do, however see oil "blooming" up from the bottom of the canal in the area outside the steel weir. We saw this even when we were shut down for a day a couple of weeks ago during a power outage and there was no flow from the Outfall.

In any event, we have two soft booms, and one hard boom positioned to catch any of this in the areas outside of the steel weir. The booms outside of the steel weir are managed by boat weekly by another company in our employ, National Industrial Maintenance. We intend to keep booms in position outside of the steel weir as long as they are needed, even after we resolve the issue of sheen inside the weir.

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From: Beslow, Mike [<mailto:beslow.mike@epa.gov>]

Sent: Friday, August 04, 2017 3:50 PM

To: Lurtz, Kevin <Kevin.Lurtz@arcelormittal.com>; sean.fitzgerald@uscg.mil; Barnett, Thomas R

<Thomas.Barnett@arcelormittal.com>

Cc: David Greinke (DGREINKE@idem.IN.gov) <DGREINKE@idem.IN.gov>; nream@idem.IN.gov; Doyle, Kevin <Kevin.Doyle@arcelormittal.com>; Higginbotham, Paul <PHIGGINB@idem.IN.gov>; sean.f.fitzgerald@uscg.mil; Arnold, Paul S LT <Paul.S.Arnold2@uscg.mil>; Beth Admire <badmire@idem.IN.gov>

Subject: RE: Outfall report Friday August 4, 2017

Mr. Barnett-

It is unclear to me why today and in the past, your report states that you had no substance discharged from 001, but there is a clear sheen within the boom in the photo you provided. Could you please explain criteria for a substance being discharged?

Mike Beslow

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Ref: 40CFR300.5

Discharge as defined by section 311(a)(2) of the CWA, includes, but is not limited to, any spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, or dumping of oil, but excludes discharges in compliance with a permit under section 402 of the CWA, discharges resulting from circumstances identified and reviewed and made a part of the public record with respect to a permit issued or modified under section 402 of the CWA, and subject to a condition in such permit, or continuous or anticipated intermittent discharges from a point source, identified in a permit or permit application under section 402 of the CWA, that are caused by events occurring within the scope of relevant operating or treatment systems. For purposes of the NCP, discharge also means substantial threat of discharge.

From: Lurtz, Kevin [mailto:Kevin.Lurtz@arcelormittal.com]

Sent: Friday, August 4, 2017 3:09 PM

To: sean.f.fitzgerald@uscg.mil; Beslow, Mike <beslow.mike@epa.gov>


Cc: David Greinke (DGREINKE@idem.IN.gov) <DGREINKE@idem.IN.gov>; nream@idem.IN.gov; Barnett, Thomas R <Thomas.Barnett@arcelormittal.com>; Doyle, Kevin <Kevin.Doyle@arcelormittal.com>

Subject: Outfall report Friday August 4, 2017

Kevin J. Lurtz | Environmental Engineer
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